

DEC 22 2005

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<b>PRE-APPEAL BRIEF REQUEST FOR REVIEW</b>		Docket Number (Optional) <b>52224/296056</b>	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on <u>12/22/2005 - fax filed to centralized</u>		Application Number <b>09/575,839</b>	Filed <b>05/22/2000</b>
Signature <u><i>Janie Wilkins</i></u> Typed or printed name <b>Janie Wilkins</b>		First Named Inventor <b>Matt Ayers</b>	
		Art Unit <b>2144</b>	Examiner <b>Thanh Nguyen</b>
Applicant requests review of the final rejection in the above-identified application. No amendments are being filed with this request.			
This request is being filed with a notice of appeal.			
The review is requested for the reason(s) stated on the attached sheet(s). Note: No more than five (5) pages may be provided.			
I am the		<u><i>Brenda O. Holmes</i></u> Signature	
<input type="checkbox"/>	applicant/inventor.	<b>Brenda O. Holmes</b> Typed or printed name	
<input type="checkbox"/>	assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71. Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96)	<b>(404) 815-6500</b> Telephone number	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	attorney or agent of record. <b>40,339</b> Registration number	<u><i>12/22/05</i></u> Date	
<input type="checkbox"/>	attorney or agent acting under 37 CFR 1.34. Registration number if acting under 37 CFR 1.34		
NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below.			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *Total of <u>1</u> forms are submitted.			

This collection of information is required by 35 U.S.C. 132. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11, 1.14 and 41.6. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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\* Notice of appeal has not received \*

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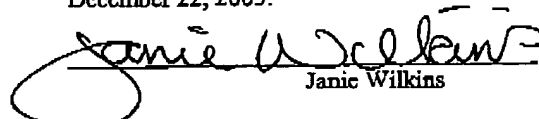
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Matt Ayers ART UNIT: 2144  
SERIAL NO.: 09/575,839 EXAMINER: Thanh Nguyen  
FILED: 05/22/2000  
FOR: Method and System for Directing  
Requests for Content to a  
Content Server Based on  
Network Performance

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 52224/296056  
P1088

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile  
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December 22, 2005.

  
Janic Wilkins

**Pre-Appeal Brief Request for Review**

Sir:

Included below is a concise summary of arguments for which this review is requested.

**Reasons for Requesting Review**

The Examiner's rejections in the most recent Office Action, as well as the earlier rejections in the previous office action, omit essential elements required to establish a prima facie rejection; namely, the Examiner has not provided a reference that teaches or suggests at least the claim limitation of directing a first network client to a content server "based on cost measurements that measure operational characteristics of the network based on communication between a second client that is physically proximate to the first network client" and one of the content servers. In light of this clear factual deficiency in the rejections, a pre-appeal panel review is requested.

12/23/2005 MBINAS 00000030 09575839  
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**Remarks**

In the Office Action mailed June 30, 2005, the Examiner rejected independent Claims 1, 12, 32, 33, 44, 46 and 64 under 35 U.S.C. § 013(a) as being unpatentable over USPN 6,006,264 to *Colby et al.* ("*Colby*") in view of USPN 6,591,298 to *Spicer et al.* ("*Spicer*").

Claim 1 recites directing a first network client to one of the content servers if cost measurements are available that measure operational characteristics of the network based on communication between the first network client and one or more of the content servers, otherwise directing the first network client to one of the content servers using one or more cost measurements that measure operational characteristics of the network based on communication between a second client that is physically proximate to the first network client and one or more of the content servers. See page 3 of the Response filed November 22, 2004. In rejecting Claim 1, the Examiner alleged that *Colby* describes directing a network client to one of the content servers "based on communication between a client that is physically proximate to the network client" and one or more of the content servers and specifically stated that "Fig. 1 shows directing the network client to content servers." However, in the same paragraph the Examiner admitted that *Colby* does not teach cost measurements that measure operational characteristic of the network or a first and a second network client. See Office Action dated June 30, 2005. These two allegations by the Examiner are inconsistent and thus, cannot form the proper basis for a rejection of the claims.

As explained on page 15 of the Response filed November 22, 2004, neither of the sections of *Colby* relied upon by the Examiner support the Examiner's rejection. The Examiner cited Fig. 1 of *Colby*. Figures 1a, 1b, and 1c illustrate a network that

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includes a content-aware flow switch and the accompanying text describes routing between servers or between a client and a server. The Examiner also cited Column 2, lines 47-59 of *Colby*. This section of *Colby* teaches away from the claimed invention. As explained on page 16 of the Response filed May 27, 2005, *Colby* only considers the location of the servers relative to the requesting client. *Colby* does not consider the location of other clients. In contrast to *Colby*, the claimed invention requires directing a first network client to a content server based on information related to a second client that is proximate to the first client.

The Examiner alleged that *Spicer* teaches that "cost measurement are available that measure operational characteristics of the network" and "a first and a second network client." As explained at page 15 of the Response filed November 22, 2004, *Spicer* does not describe using information related to one client to select a content server for another client. *Spicer* is directed to the scheduling of performance measurements. Although *Spicer* describes collecting performance measurements and multiple clients, it does not describe using information about one client to select a content server for another client.

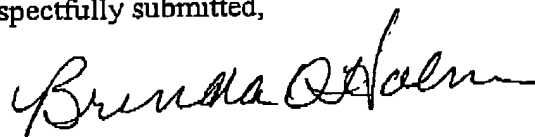
The arguments presented in the Response filed November 22, 2004 and summarized above were reiterated in a telephone interview conducted with the Examiner on January 27, 2005.

No amendments have been made to the claims since the amendments made in the Response dated November 22, 2004 to clarify that a first client is directed to one of the content servers based on cost measurements related to a second client that is proximate to the first client. See Page 3 of the Response dated November 22, 2005.

In light of the above, allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,



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